

From: DEDLYDON@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 3:47pm
Subject: Microsoft

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am frustrated that, despite all efforts to serve justice, problems continue to arise in the Microsoft antitrust case. Now, even as a settlement is pending in the federal courts, Microsoft's opponents are seeking to overturn the settlement and bring additional litigation against Microsoft. This is highly inappropriate. Microsoft has done nothing to warrant such vicious persecution except be successful. The litigants who seek to overturn the settlement have no altruistic aims - they only want to squeeze all the profit they can out of Microsoft.

After six months of supervised negotiations, Microsoft and the Department of Justice were able to reach a settlement in the antitrust case. Microsoft's opponents claim the settlement is too lenient and that Microsoft has merely received a slap on the wrist, but such is not the case. Some of the terms agreed to in the settlement extend to products and policies that were not found to be unlawful by the Court of Appeals; Microsoft has agreed to these terms in the interest of wrapping up the case. I agree that it is time to settle and move on, and I do not think the settlement is in any way unfair. For example, Microsoft has agreed to license the Windows operating system to twenty of the largest computer makers on identical terms and conditions, including price. Additionally, Microsoft will refrain in future from retaliating against anyone who produces software that directly competes with Microsoft technology.

I do not believe that additional action is necessary on the federal level. Microsoft has paid its debt to society, and it is time to let this go. I ask you to support the settlement in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Donald Decker
183 San Remo Road
Carmel, CA 93923

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